

What to WATCH

TEN 1
UEFA Champions League
Dortmund v PSG
Live from 2:00am (Wednesday)

TEN 2
UEFA Champions League
Atletico Madrid v Liverpool
Live from 2:00am (Wednesday)

DAY'S EVENT

Bangladesh Premier League
Muktijoddha v Sheikh Jamal
Time: 3:15pm

Venue: Sheikh Fazlul Haque Moni Stadium, Gopalganj
Ctg Abahani v Arambagh KS

Time: 6:30pm
Venue: MA Aziz Stadium, Chattogram
Two-day practice match

BCB XI v Zimbabweans
Time: 9:30am
Venue: BKSP

MUNICH DISASTER HERO HARRY GREGG NO MORE

Former Manchester United goalkeeper and Munich air disaster hero Harry Gregg has died at the age of 87, the Premier League club said on Monday. Gregg, a Northern Ireland international, helped rescue some of his teammates and other passengers after the plane crash in Munich on Feb. 6, 1958, which killed 23 people - including eight of his fellow players. He played 247 times for the Old Trafford club between 1957 and 1966. "It is with deepest sadness that we have learned of the passing of former player Harry Gregg OBE," United wrote on Twitter. "The thoughts and prayers of everyone at the club go out to Harry's family and friends." Gregg's charitable foundation said the goalkeeping great died in Causeway Hospital in Coleraine. Gregg won 25 caps for Northern Ireland between 1954 and 1963. He played in the 1958 World Cup and was voted goalkeeper of the tournament.

→ REUTERS





Liverpool forward Mohamed Salah (R) jokes with teammate Takumi Minamino during a practice session in Melwood yesterday, the eve of their Champions League fixture against Atletico Madrid.

PHOTO: AFP

Liverpool the team to beat

AFP, London

Liverpool return to the scene of their Champions League triumph when they visit Atletico Madrid's Wanda Metropolitano on Tuesday very much the team to beat for those hoping to succeed Jurgen Klopp's men as European champions.

Liverpool are coasting towards a first Premier League title in 30 years having dropped just two points all season and are likely to be crowned English champions before the Champions League quarterfinals commence in early April.

Liverpool remain on course for a potential five-trophy haul this season. They have already lifted the UEFA Super Cup and Club World Cup and are used to reaching European finals under Klopp.

"I have no clue if we can win the Champions League again but we should be ready to go for it," said Klopp. "What I know and what we showed last year is that we can beat the best."

On current form Atletico are little match for the holders.

For the first time in over eight years in charge, the future of Diego Simeone has been questioned with Los Rojiblancos languishing well off the pace in La Liga and battling just to qualify for next season's Champions League.

By contrast, Liverpool have

hit the money with almost every major signing in recent years.

With Alisson Becker, Virgil van Dijk, Fabinho, Sadio Mane and Mohamed Salah they have built a side capable of not just winning, but retaining the Champions League.

Simeone's Atletico sides that came so close to winning the competition in losing two finals to rivals Real in 2014 and 2016 were built on the most miserly defence.

But even the Argentine would be impressed by Liverpool's run of winning their last 11 league games by the combined score of 24-1.

Across the continent, no other side looks as well-balanced and settled heading into the latter stages.

Manchester City's stunning two-season ban from the competition handed down by UEFA on Friday means it could be now or never if the English champions are ever to conquer Europe with Pep Guardiola in charge.

However, City are running into a rejuvenated Real Madrid in the last 16, who have shot to the top of La Liga on a 14-game unbeaten run.

Zinedine Zidane has again revived the Spanish giants in his second spell in charge and is yet to lose a Champions League tie after winning the competition during his previous three seasons in charge.

Paris Saint-Germain also begin their quest to overcome three years

Champions League 2019-2020			
Last 16			
1ST LEG			2ND LEG
Feb 18	Dortmund - - Paris St Germain		Mar 11
	Atletico Madrid - - Liverpool		
Feb 19	Atalanta - - Valencia		Mar 10
	Tottenham - - RB Leipzig		
Feb 25	Chelsea - - Bayern Munich		Mar 18
	Napoli - - Barcelona		
Feb 26	Real Madrid - - Manchester City		Mar 17
	Lyon - - Juventus		
Source: UEFA			

of heartbreak at the last 16 stage on Tuesday when they visit Borussia Dortmund.

Barcelona lurch from one institutional crisis to another and have a new coach, Quique Setien, with no previous Champions League experience for a tricky tie against Napoli.

The success or otherwise of Juventus' season will also be judged on winning the Champions League for the first time in 24 years.

A kind last-16 draw against Lyon should give Maurizio Sarri

more time to turn the Italian champions into potential conquerors of Europe, but big questions are already being asked of Sarri's suitability for that target as Juve are struggling to hold off Inter Milan and Lazio to preserve their domestic dominance in Italy.

Bayern Munich's grip on the Bundesliga is also being challenged this season, but the German giants will be confident of gaining revenge for losing the 2012 Champions League final on home soil to Chelsea.

Ruhul Amin opts out of BFF presidency campaign

SPORTS REPORTER



With the schedule of the 2020 polls of Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yet to be announced, president aspirant Tarafder Ruhul Amin yesterday declared not to contest in April's polls in a bid to avoid an unhealthy situation.

Amin, secretary general of Bangladesh Divisional and District Football Association (BDDFA) and president of Bangladesh Club Association, disclosed his decision at his Mohakhali office in presence of BFF's incumbent vice-president Mohiuddin Ahmed Mohi, BDDFA vice-president Sirajuddin Mohammad Alamgir, former footballers Gaffar Chowdhury, Hasanuzzaman Khan Bablu and a couple of district and divisional football association officials.

"You all know I was the chief election coordinator of a panel [Kazi Salahuddin-led panel] during the 2016 BFF polls and that time the incumbent BFF president [Kazi Salahuddin] declared not to contest further in future. He had appealed to all councillors to elect him for the last time [third successive time] and 95 percent of candidates of our panel passed in the elections.

"BDDFA and Bangladesh Club Association nominated me for contesting in 2020 BFF polls as a president candidate as the incumbent president was not supposed to contest. I was going in that direction but I learnt that the incumbent president will be contesting in the BFF polls for the fourth term even though he had earlier declared not to do

so," said Amin.

"As a result, we observed an unhealthy environment in football and I, after discussing the matter with others, decided to withdraw myself from running for the president post because we all want betterment of football and take football forward. I also want to stay away from the unhealthy environment regarding the polls," Amin said, explaining his decision.



Asked whether there was any pressure from any quarters to withdraw from the BFF polls, Amin said there was none. "I only withdrew myself from the BFF president candidacy temporarily, but I haven't left the election field. The officials of BDDFA and club association will contest in other BFF posts and we will try to give a fittest panel for the BFF polls," he added.

Since the 2016 elections, Amin invested a lot in football by providing financial assistance to district football associations to run district leagues and the Dhaka clubs to run their camps for different leagues. Amin also sponsored Bangladesh Premier League, First, Second and Third division leagues apart from holding a youth tournament across the country.

Incumbent president Kazi Salahuddin welcomed Amin's decision but denied his previous statement of not contesting in BFF polls.

"Anyone who is qualified can contest in BFF polls; there is no barrier to that. I want to thank him for keeping faith on me," Salahuddin told reporters. "I said before that I might or might not contest again and I am still telling the same."

Lazio go second

AFP, Milan



Lazio coach Simone Inzaghi gave warning his side are ready to fight for their first Serie A title since 2000 after moving into second in Serie A on Sunday, just one point off leaders Juventus after a come-from-behind 2-1 win over Inter Milan.

Juventus reclaimed pole position thanks to Paulo Dybala and Juan Cuadrado's goals as the Turin giants rediscovered their winning form 2-0 at home against Brescia.

Inter Milan dropped from top spot to third -- three points behind the eight-time reigning champions -- after falling to just their second defeat of the season.

"We need to stay humble and focused but I'm sure we will succeed. We have nothing to lose," said Inzaghi.

"We know that Juventus and Inter are two

great teams and we will do everything to fight to the end, knowing that it will be very difficult."

In a fiery clash in the Stadio Olimpico defender Ashley Young broke through just before the break with his first Serie A goal for Inter Milan after his move from Manchester United.

The 34-year-old got his foot to tap-in off a rebound after Thomas Strakoska had cleared from former Lazio player Antonio Candreva.

A Stefan de Vrij foul on Ciro Immobile allowed the Serie A top scorer to slot in his 26th goal in 24 games this season, five minutes after the break.

Sergej Milinkovic-Savic snatched the winner after 69 minutes amid confusion in front of goal.

"We gifted Lazio two goals," said Inter coach Antonio Conte.

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Yeasin ends foreigners' monopoly

SPORTS REPORTER



A local footballer finally wrote his name in the scoresheet of Bangladesh Premier League as a second-half header from Yeasin Arafat helped hosts Saif SC notch up a single-goal win over visiting Mohammedan at the Shaheed Rafique Uddin Bhuiyan Stadium in Mymensingh yesterday.

The goal helped Yeasin to become the first local player to score in the seventh match of ongoing professional league after nine different foreign players scored nine goals in previous six matches.

The win put Saif on the top of the table with six points from two outings while Mohammedan suffered their first defeat following win over Arambagh in their first match.

Mohammedan looked better at the start of the game in the first 15 minutes when they twice came close to breaking the deadlock but were not lucky enough to take the lead.

Nigerian midfielder Ugochukwu Obi Moneke, who scored the winning goal against Arambagh, tried his luck from the centre-circle in the eighth minute when a poor shot from Saif goalkeeper Pappu Hossain came to him. The Nigerian's long-range attempt went narrowly wide of the open net.

Six minutes later, Obi took a free-kick from the edge of the box and Pappu made a brilliant save before Saif gained confidence to start controlling the game.

Rwandan defender Emery Bayisenge saw his close-range header on a cross from Murolimzhon Akhmedov go straight at Mohammedan goalkeeper Hossain Suzan in the 23rd minute before Faisal Ahmed Fahim floated over the crosspiece in 35th minute.

Saif took the lead in the 56th minute with Yeasin headed home a free-kick from Akhmedov while Mohammedan came close to equalising in the 69th minute but Malian marksman Souleymane Diabate drove wide of target.

With the game entering stoppage time, Mohammedan got a great opportunity to level the margin again but Diabate was wayward with his drive.

The Daily Star-এর

২৯তম প্রতিষ্ঠা বার্ষিকীতে

স্বাধীনতা

একটি নতুন মাত্রা যাত্রা আরম্ভ

● কোন প্রকার চার্জ বা কর্তন ব্যতিরেকে মেয়াদ শেষ হওয়ার পূর্বেই প্রয়োজনে সম্পূর্ণ সঞ্চয় তোলা যায়। ● সঞ্চয়ের বিপরীতে ৮০% পর্যন্ত ঋণ সুবিধা পাওয়া যাবে। ● ম্যাক্সিমাম ৫০,০০০ (পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকা সঞ্চয়ে প্রতি ২ মাস পর প্রদেয় মুদাফার পরিমাণ ৯০০ (নয় শত টাকা)

এক মাসে ১ লাখ টাকা সঞ্চয় করে সর্বনিম্ন ১,০০,০০০/- টাকা অর্থবা এর ঋণিতক যে কোন অঙ্কের টাকা। ● এক সপ্তকে অর্থ দিয়ে প্রতি মাসে লাভ প্রতি ৯০০/- টাকা মুদাফার পাওয়ার এক আকর্ষণীয় সুযোগ। ● সঞ্চয়ের বিপরীতে ৮০% পর্যন্ত ঋণ সুবিধা পাওয়া যাবে।

মাসিক আর্থিক ফিল

মাসে মাসে অর্থ ফিল নির্ভরনায় মাস।

গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ডিপোজিট

হুয়ে বছরে ডিপোজিট, স্বল্পসময়কার ফিল।

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সর্বনিম্ন ১ লাখ অর্থবা এর ঋণিতক যে কোন অঙ্কের টাকা পর্যন্ত একবার জমা দিয়ে ৬ বছরে বিভূর্ণ পরিমাণ টাকা পাওয়ার এক আকর্ষণীয় সুযোগ।

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